

IN THE CLAIMS:

MARKED-UP VERSION OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A shingle comprising
a shingle neck, and a shingle body,
characterized in that
a raised engagement and guide element (5) is disposed at ~~[[the]]~~ a bottom
side of a region of the shingle body (2) disposed remote relative to the
shingle neck, and
the raised engagement and guide element (5) exhibits such a raised
engagement guide element (5) in a lower region of the shingle body (2),
wherein the raised engagement and guide element (5) exhibits a female mold
~~[[like]]~~ undercut zone (6) in the direction of the body and disposed remote
from the shingle neck, wherein the female mold undercut zone (6) forms an
inverted recessed channel together with an inner side of the shingle body,
wherein the inverted recessed channel extends up to a width of the neck,
wherein correspondingly dimensioned male mold ~~[[like]]~~ undercut zones (7)
are disposed at two shingle shoulders (4), and wherein a profile of the
inverted recessed channel shape matches a profile of the male mold undercut
zone.

2. (cancelled)

3. (previously presented) The shingle according to claim 1,

characterized in that the width of two shingle shoulders (4) corresponds in each case to about one half of the width of the raised engagement and guide element (5).

4. (previously presented) The shingle according to claim 1, wherein the shingle is a roof shingle.

5. (currently amended) A shingle comprising

a shingle neck;

a shingle body;

a first shingle shoulder disposed on a first side between the shingle neck and the shingle body;

a first male undercut zone projecting on a top side of the first shoulder;

a second shingle shoulder (4) disposed on a second side between the shingle neck and the shingle body;

a second male undercut zone projecting on a top side of the second shoulder;

a raised engagement and guide element disposed on ~~a wall facing an inner~~ side of the shingle body and in a lower region of the shingle body and disposed remote from the ~~shingle~~ shingle neck forming a female mold

[[like]] undercut zone (6) and wherein the first male undercut zone matches the shape of the part of the raised engagement and guide element on the second side for engaging the first male undercut zone with a part of another raised engagement and guide element on another second side of a second shingle constructed like the first shingle and wherein the second male undercut zone matches the shape of the part of the raised engagement and guide element on the first side for engaging the second male undercut zone with a part of another raised engagement and guide element on another first side of a third shingle constructed like the first shingle.

6. (previously presented) The shingle according to claim 5, wherein the shingle neck and the shingle body are disposed in one plane, and wherein the raised engagement and guide element projects from the shingle body by a height level corresponding to a thickness of the shingle body.

7. (currently amended) The shingle according to claim 5, wherein the raised engagement and guide element (5) is disposed in the lower region of the shingle body (2), wherein the raised engagement and guide element (5) ~~exhibits~~ defines a female mold ~~[[like]]~~ undercut zone (6) open on a downward side and extending horizontally along the shingle body and having a deepest point adjacent to the shingle body.

8. (previously presented) The shingle according to claim 5, wherein a horizontal extension of the first shingle shoulder (4) corresponds to about one half of a horizontal extension of the raised engagement and guide element (5); and wherein a horizontal extension of the second shingle shoulder (4) corresponds to about one half of a horizontal extension of the raised engagement and guide element (5).

9. (previously presented) The shingle according to claim 5, wherein the shingle is a roof shingle.

10. (previously presented) The shingle according to claim 5, wherein the shingle is a house shingle.

11. (currently amended) The shingle according to claim 5, wherein the [[.]] first male undercut zone has an edge disposed in a plane of an outside of the shingle; wherein the second male undercut zone has an edge disposed in a plane of an outside of the shingle; and wherein the raised engagement and guide element has a deepest bottom groove adjacent to a plane on the inner surface of the shingle body.

12. (previously presented) The shingle according to claim 5 wherein the raised engagement and guide element has a shape of a horizontally extending overhang.

13. (previously presented) The shingle according to claim 5, wherein the raised engagement and guide element is projecting from an inner side face of the shingle body.

14. (previously presented) The shingle according to claim 5, wherein an edge of the shingle body on the first side is straight and nearly vertical; and

wherein an edge of the shingle body on the second side is straight and disposed substantially parallel to the edge of the shingle body on the first side; and

wherein the raised engagement and guide element is disposed in a middle between the edge of the shingle body on the first side and the edge of the shingle body on the second side.

15. (currently amended) The shingle body according to claim 14,
wherein a first edge on the first side of the neck of the shingle is disposed
straight and parallel to the edge of the shingle body on the first side;
wherein a second edge on the second side of the neck of the shingle is
disposed straight and parallel to the edge of the shingle body on the second
side;
wherein the edge of the shingle body on the first side is longer than the first
edge on the first side of the neck of the shingle; and [.]
wherein the edge of the shingle body on the second side is longer than the
second edge on the second side of the neck of the shingle.

16. (previously presented) The shingle body according to claim 5,
wherein the neck of the shingle and the body of the shingle are located in
one geometric plane.

17. (previously presented) The shingle body according to claim 5
wherein a depth of the projection of the raised engagement and guide
element is substantially equal to a thickness of the shingle body.

18. (currently amended) The shingle body according to claim 5 wherein the engagement and guide element is formed ~~[[like]]~~ as a projection from the body of the shingle, wherein an end face of the engagement and guide element forms a plane disposed parallel to a plane of the body of the shingle; and wherein the projection extends at an angle from the body of the shingle; wherein an angle of the first male mold ~~[[like]]~~ undercut zone (7) relative to the plane of the body of the shingle matches the angle of the projection; and wherein an angle of the second male mold ~~[[like]]~~ undercut zone (7) relative to the plane of the body of the shingle matches the angle of the projection.

19. (currently amended) A shingle ~~essentially~~ consisting of:

a shingle neck;

a shingle body;

a first shingle shoulder disposed on a first side between the shingle neck and the shingle body;

a first male undercut zone projecting on a top side of the first shoulder;

a second shingle shoulder (4) disposed on a second side between the shingle neck and the shingle body;

a second male undercut zone projecting on a top side of the second shoulder;

a raised engagement and guide element disposed on ~~a wall-facing~~ an inner side of the shingle body and in a lower region of the shingle body and disposed remote from the ~~shingle~~ shingle neck forming a female mold ~~[[like]]~~ undercut zone (6) and wherein the first male undercut zone matches the shape of the part of the raised engagement and guide element on the

second side for engaging the first male undercut zone with a part of another raised engagement and guide element on another second side of a second shingle constructed like the first shingle and wherein the second male undercut zone matches the shape of the part of the raised engagement and guide element on the first side for engaging the second male undercut zone with a part of another raised engagement and guide element on another first side of a third shingle constructed like the first shingle.

20. (new) The shingle according to claim 5, wherein the inner side of the shingle defines a first plane;

wherein an outer side of the shingle defines a second plane disposed parallel to the first plane;

wherein the shingle neck defines an axial direction;

wherein a plurality of sectional planes is disposed perpendicular to the first plane and contain a straight line disposed parallel to the axial direction of the neck;

wherein the first male undercut zone is formed by a first ridge;

wherein the first ridge forms a first acute angle with the second plane when intersected by one of the plurality of sectional planes;

wherein the first ridge forms a first obtuse angle with the first plane when intersected by one of the plurality of sectional planes;

wherein the second male undercut zone is formed by a second ridge;

wherein the second ridge forms a second acute angle with the second plane when intersected by one of the plurality of sectional planes;
wherein the second ridge forms a second obtuse angle with the first plane when intersected by one of the plurality of sectional planes.

21. (new) The shingle according to claim 20,
wherein an inner side of the raised engagement and guide element defines a third plane disposed parallel to the first plane;
wherein the female mold undercut zone is formed by a ledge;
wherein the ledge forms a third acute angle with the third plane when intersected by one of the plurality of sectional planes;
wherein the ledge forms a third obtuse angle with the first plane when intersected by one of the plurality of sectional planes.

22. (new) The shingle according to claim 21,
wherein the first acute angle is from about 40 to 50 degrees;
wherein the second acute angle is from about 40 to 50 degrees;
wherein the third acute angle is from about 40 to 50 degrees;
wherein the first obtuse angle is from about 130 to 140 degrees;
wherein the second obtuse angle is from about 130 to 140 degrees;

wherein the third obtuse angle is from about 130 to 140 degrees.

23. (new) A shingle comprising
a shingle neck having an axial direction;
a shingle body;
a first shingle shoulder disposed on a first side between the shingle neck and the shingle body;
a first ridge forming a top side of the first shoulder;
a second shingle shoulder disposed on a second side between the shingle neck and the shingle body;
a second ridge forming a top side of the second shoulder;
a raised engagement and guide element disposed on an inner side of the shingle body and in a lower region of the shingle body and disposed remote from the shingle neck forming a ledge (6);
wherein the inner side of the shingle defines a first plane;
wherein an outer side of the shingle defines a second plane disposed parallel to the first plane;
wherein the shingle neck defines an axial direction;
wherein a plurality of sectional planes is disposed perpendicular to the first plane and contain a straight line disposed parallel to the axial direction of the neck;
wherein an inner side of the raised engagement and guide element defines a third plane disposed parallel to the first plane;

wherein the ledge forms a third acute angle with the third plane when intersected by one of the plurality of sectional planes;

wherein the ledge forms a third obtuse angle with the first plane when intersected by one of the plurality of sectional planes.

24. (new) The shingle according to claim 23,

wherein the first ridge forms a first acute angle with the second plane when intersected by one of the plurality of sectional planes;

wherein the first ridge forms a first obtuse angle with the first plane when intersected by one of the plurality of sectional planes;

wherein the second ridge forms a second acute angle with the second plane when intersected by one of the plurality of sectional planes;

wherein the second ridge forms a second obtuse angle with the first plane when intersected by one of the plurality of sectional planes.

25. (new) The shingle according to claim 24,

wherein the first acute angle is from about 40 to 50 degrees;

wherein the second acute angle is from about 40 to 50 degrees;

wherein the third acute angle is from about 40 to 50 degrees;

wherein the first obtuse angle is from about 130 to 140 degrees;

wherein the second obtuse angle is from about 130 to 140 degrees;

wherein the third obtuse angle is from about 130 to 140 degrees.